

Six Things You Need to Know About School Ratings From the 2014-2015 School Year

The school ratings for the 2014-2015 school year have been paused due to Nevada's transition to new assessments. These school rating reports will represent a blend of 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 information.

For this Year

- 1. School star ratings from the 2013-2014 school year are being carried forward for the 2014-2015 school year. The transition to new assessments in the 2014-2015 school year has caused a break in historical student data which makes it difficult to assign star ratings. The Nevada School Performance Framework reports will not include proficiency data from the 2014-2015 school year and will appear different than those from previous years.
- 2. New Focus School and Priority School designations have been made and are indicated on the 2014-2015 school reports. In accordance with Nevada's Elementary and Secondary Education Act Flexibility Waiver, new Focus and Priority Schools have been designated using 2013-2014 student achievement data. These updated designations appear on the school reports for the 2014-2015 school year.
- **3. Title I funded schools from the 2014-2015 school year are indicated on the 2014-2015 reports.** The Title I status on the 2014-2015 school reports has been updated and reflects the Title I schools served during the 2014-2015 school year.
- **4.** School demography from the 2014-2015 school year is indicated on these reports. The demographic information on the 2014-2015 school reports reflects the student population for all grades at the school. This information was determined on Nevada's count day from October 2014.

Looking Ahead

- 5. A transitional school accountability model is expected to be in place for the 2015-2016 school year. Nevada's approval to pause school ratings does not presently extend past the 2014-2015 school year; however, some of the key measures used to rate Nevada schools will not be available until the 2016-2017 school year. As a result, a transitional system is being developed to inform Nevadans of school achievement for the 2015-2016 school year.
- 6. A new school rating system is being developed and is expected to be in place after the 2016-2017 school year. Academic growth is an important factor when determining school ratings. Based on input from Nevada Stakeholders, growth will remain a measure in the next rating system. Other measures of student achievement from the current rating system are under review. Needed and exciting improvements are to come for Nevada's school ratings and will include the addition of measuring science proficiency.